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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant:</b>	Tsutomu Okada	<b>Examiner:</b>	Matthew John Kasztejna
<b>Serial No:</b>	10/764,892	<b>Art Unit:</b>	3739
<b>Filed:</b>	January 26, 2004	<b>Docket:</b>	17376
<b>For:</b>	DIATHERMIC SNARE, MEDICAL INSTRUMENT SYSTEM USING THE SNARE, AND METHOD OF ASSEMBLING THE MEDICAL INSTRUMENT SYSTEM	<b>Dated:</b>	September 5, 2006

**Conf. No.:** 9699

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

Sir:

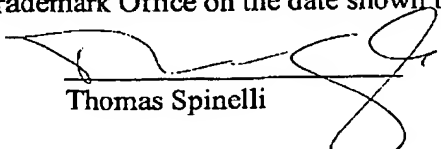
In response to the Final Official Action dated May 5, 2006, Applicant has filed a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) herewith along with the present Amendment. Applicant respectfully requests that, prior to continued examination, the above-identified application be amended as follows:

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**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to facsimile number 571-273-8300 at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Dated: September 5, 2006

  
Thomas Spinelli

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